

Amendment

Amendment to Drawing Figures:

Please insert Figures 1-12 as submitted herewith.

Remarks

I. Amendment to Drawing Figures

Applicants submit that the drawings submitted herewith are not new matter to the above-referenced application. The above-referenced application is a continuing application of prior Application No. 09/548,256, which was incorporated by reference in its entirety, as indicated on the Utility Patent Application Transmittal Sheet and in the section of the above-referenced application entitled “CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS” submitted on August 26, 2003. As such, the entire disclosure of the prior application is considered a part of the disclosure of the above-referenced application.

Moreover, the Amendment to Drawing Figures requested herein merely corrects a portion of the above-referenced application, which was inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts. For this purpose, incorporation by reference of the entire disclosure of the prior application may be relied upon. *See* the Utility Patent Application Transmittal Sheet (previously submitted on August 26, 2003). The drawings submitted herewith are part of the disclosure of the prior application as indicated on the Filing Receipt, mailed October 17, 2000 (a copy is attached herewith), so they are not new matter to the above-referenced application.

Furthermore, it is submitted that the figures attached herewith are also supported by the specification in the Brief Description of the Drawings in the above-referenced application. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the addition of the drawings, submitted herewith, is supported in the above-referenced specification and parent application and does not constitute new matter. As such, the Office is respectfully requested to enter the Amendment to Drawing Figures and indicate acceptance of Figures 1-12 submitted herewith.

II. Newly Executed Oath Or Declaration Covering The Items

Applicants respectfully note that the copy of the declaration for the prior application, submitted with the above-referenced application on August 26, 2002, encompasses the drawings submitted herewith. As the drawings submitted herewith are not new matter to the above-referenced application, a newly executed oath or declaration covering the items submitted herewith has not been provided. A copy of the declaration for the prior application, as previously submitted on August 26, 2003 with the above-referenced application, is attached herewith.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully requested that the above-referenced application be granted its filing date of August 26, 2002 and that a Official Filing Receipt acknowledging such be mailed to Applicants. In addition, it is submitted that the above-referenced application is in condition for allowance, and notice of such is respectfully requested. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned should any additional information be necessary for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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